

**YOUR BABY—THE COMPLETE BABY BOOK FOR MOTHERS AND FATHERS.** By Gladys Denny Shultz, Contributing Editor, *Ladies' Home Journal* and Lee Forrest Hill, M.D., Former President, American Academy of Pediatrics. Photography by Joseph Di Pietro, Line Drawings by Reisie Lonette, Doubleday & Company, Inc., Garden City, N. Y., 1948. \$3.50.

Your Baby—The Complete Baby Book for Mothers and Fathers is a large and handsomely printed book on baby care. It contains numerous photographs and drawings particularly suited to a mother with her first child. It goes into great detail in a manner which will answer many of her questions and allay many of her fears. Without being dogmatic it reflects the latest changes in pediatric thinking in the matter of infant and child care.

Particular attention is paid to the period of pregnancy and preparation for the arrival of an infant. Particular attention is also paid to the father and there are numerous suggestions concerning his new role in the family. Its very personal "Dad and Mother" style may not appeal to all parents, however, particularly fathers.

It should prove a useful and popular addition to the numerous books available on the subject of Baby Care.

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**HALLMARKS OF MANKIND.** By Frederic Wood Jones, D.Sc., M.B., B.S., F.R.S., F.R.C.S., Sir William Collins Professor of Human and Comparative Anatomy, Royal College of Surgeons of England. The Williams and Wilkins Co., Baltimore, Maryland, 1948. \$2.50.

This book of 86 pages was developed from two lectures given in 1947 by the distinguished British anatomist, Frederic Wood Jones, who ably discusses the story of the ancestry of man as deduced from the newer knowledge of the anatomy of Primates and the newer paleontological discoveries.

The popularity of Darwin's "Descent of Man" and Huxley's "Man's Place in Nature" does not of necessity make them correct; as Jones shows, man is an extremely primitive type and has "his own remarkable structural specializations that distinguish him from all other mammals and appear to be his very ancient hallmarks."

One hopes that the findings and arguments of Jones will supplant those of Darwin and Huxley and thereby prevent such stupid events as the trial of a teacher in Tennessee about the doctrine of evolution.

This little volume will be read by those who realize that the existing Primates "are a complex assemblage and not a simple phylogenetic series," and who wish to learn more of the most important event to occur in the evolution of living things, namely, bodily erectness.

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**A.M.A. INTERNS' MANUAL.** 209 pages. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, 1948. \$2.25.

This Interns' Manual is a useful compendium for the intern and has sections on the internships and residencies, simple clinical and laboratory data, drug administrations and a short *Materia Medica*, a section on acute poisoning, and one on diet and nutrition, physical medicine, and the legal aspects of intern practice. The book will undoubtedly serve a useful function but it lacks the details of medical emergencies seen in the "Handbook of Medical Emergencies" by the Harvard University Press, and it does not provide the detail that is available in the complete publication, "The Physician's Handbook," by the University Medical Publishers of Palo Alto.

Nevertheless, the A.M.A. Interns' Manual contains some information not present in either of the other two books mentioned above.

The Manual can be recommended as a reliable guide to the physician beginning his internship.

**MANUAL OF UROLOGY.** By R. M. LeComte, M.D., F.A.C.S., formerly Professor of Urology, Georgetown University. Fourth Edition. The William and Wilkins Company, Baltimore, Maryland, 1948. \$4.00.

LeComte's "Manual of Urology" is a suitable book for the general practitioner who sees an occasional urologic case. It is a good text for the medical student or for the part-time urologist to use as a reference work in reviewing the ordinary office procedures. The book is written simply, without complicated discussions, in most cases giving LeComte's own views on various diseases. The treatment of urinary infection by the antibiotics and the new chemical drugs has been brought up to date. The illustrations are few but clear-cut, and an excellent bibliography on the various chapters is appended. The book is well printed, and is an excellent value for those who need, as LeComte calls his work, a manual of urology. LeComte makes no claim that the book is an all-inclusive text, and it would be of little value to the experienced urologist.

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**ABDOMINAL OPERATIONS.** By Rodney Maingot, F.R.C.S. Eng., Surgeon to the Royal Free Hospital, London. Second Edition. 1298 pages, 1051 illustrations. Appleton-Century-Crofts, Inc., New York, 1948. \$16.00.

The evolution of surgical technique is progressing at an extremely rapid pace. Operative procedures considered impossible become, in a few months, quite commonplace procedures. To write a textbook which is completely up to date becomes, therefore, an ever-increasingly difficult task. This, however, has been nobly accomplished in Maingot's book, "Abdominal Operations."

The author has in each chapter drawn up the latest references and descriptive illustrations of outstanding authorities, both European and American. Most of these are American but other authorities are not overlooked as is sometimes the custom of American writers. The various surgical techniques are exceptionally well illustrated and all discussions are clear and to the point.

In procedures where there are differences of opinion by many authorities, the writer has endeavored to give, fairly and concisely, the pros and cons of each procedure. Among these are noted such problems as in: abdominal perineal resection; abdominal colostomy versus pull-through; anterior versus posterior gastrojejunostomy in gastric resection; open versus closed intestinal anastomosis; the question of primary anastomosis in low rectosigmoid lesions, and many others.

It must be kept in mind that the book covers only abdominal surgery. Gynecological and urological abdominal procedures such as ureteral transplants are not included. The thoracic abdominal approach to lesions of the cardiac end of the stomach is, however, illustrated.

The book can be recommended as the most modern contribution among textbooks on abdominal surgery.

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**HUMAN BIOCHEMISTRY.** By Israel S. Kleiner, Ph.D., Professor of Biochemistry and Director of Department of Physiology and Biochemistry, New York Medical College. With 77 text illustrations and five color plates. Second Edition. The C. V. Mosby Company, St. Louis, Mo., 1948. \$7.00.

This text contains an enormous amount of useful information in a very concise form. It is well organized and very broad in its scope. It should be very useful for the student or practitioner who wishes to get a bird's-eye view of chemical aberrations in any disease in its briefest form. The book does not contain detailed information on most medical chemistry, although some sections are quite extensive. There is no description of analytic methods, but much discussion of the interpretation of the results. The integration of the material is good, but suffers from some of the troubles which beset any non-medical writer who ventures into clinical

interpretations. There are inaccuracies and some frank errors. Nevertheless, the book should be a very useful one as a quick reference source for students of medical chemistry.

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**THE CLINICAL APPRENTICE.** A Guide for Students of Medicine by John M. Naish, M.D. (Cantab.), Lately Tutor in Medicine, Bristol University and John Apley, M.D. (Lond.), Honorary Pediatrician, Royal United Hospital, Bath. The William and Wilkins Co., Baltimore, Maryland, 1948. \$4.50.

This is a small book written for English students beginning their clinical training in medicine. The authors have designed it to help the student who is working in physical diagnosis. At this stage of his career he has difficulty in correlating the tremendous amount of information which he has accumulated in his preclinical sciences, the detailed examination which he is told to follow and the apparently brief examination with which the experienced practitioner contents himself. The book makes no attempt to give a comprehensive account of the methods of examination and the difficulties associated with the mastery of physical diagnosis, but emphasizes certain essentials in order to make the techniques of physical examination stand out as vivid and understandable.

For a small book it has a great deal of useful information. While it is essentially concerned with physical diagnosis, it also represents a summary of the medical philosophy of the authors. It is practical and commonsensical in its approach. It has a number of well drawn and pointed diagrams. It may be helpful to American students as a reference to certain aspects of physical diagnosis but can not be considered in the light of replacing any of the more comprehensive books which are available at present.

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**STERILITY AND IMPAIRED FERTILITY,** Pathogenesis, Investigation and Treatment. By Cedric Lane-Roberts, C.V.O., M.S., F.R.C.S., F.R.C.O.G.; Albert Sharman, M.D., Ph.D., M.R.C.O.G.; Kenneth Walker, M.A., M.D., B.C. (Cantab.), F.R.C.S., F.I.C.S.; B. P. Wiesner, D.Sc., Ph.D., F.R.S.E.; and Mary Barton, M.B., B.S. Second Edition. Paul B. Hoeber, Inc., Medical Book Department of Harper & Brothers, New York, N. Y., 1948. \$6.50.

Cedric Lane-Roberts, Albert Sharman, gynecologists, and Kenneth Walker, urologist, collaborated with B. P. Wiesner, biologist, as authors of the first edition. Mary Barton, first assistant to the Fertility Clinic, Royal Free Hospital, London, has been added to the list of authors of the second edition. This volume is a general review of the problem of infertility in the human and deals with both the male and female factors. It is apparently the first work of this kind published in England and it is dignified by a masterly introduction from the pen of Lord Horder.

From our viewpoint there should have been a better revision for the second edition. There are many omissions of important recent advances in our knowledge but the subject matter covered is extensive and will prove of great value to the student and general practitioner who desire a groundwork for this study. To the great amount of compiled material the Lane-Roberts group also have added much from their own clinical and laboratory experience.

There is no other single volume that will give the reader the amount of information, much in detail, that is contained in this handy book. It is of worth as it presents a review, incomplete as it is, of valuable research and laboratory findings, which otherwise would entail a great amount of time and laborious search to obtain.

The first three chapters constitute an excellent introduction and general survey of the problem. Chapters III through VI deal with fertility and impaired fertility of the male. The chapters on The Constitution of Semen and

Assay of Fertility will give the reader an excellent over-all view as well as considerable detail in these essentials. However, the authors' statement in the summary that "the assay must be based primarily upon the morphological characteristics of the spermatozoa and their capacity to invade ovulatory cervical mucus" will not be accepted by the majority of investigators, as the number of spermatozoa is undoubtedly a determining factor.

Many of the opinions expressed by the authors are not in accord with those of most investigators in the field. For instance, impaired fertility is often indicated in the semen only by a reduction in the number of spermatozoa, while their morphology remains normal. Yet the statement is made by the authors that in checking the results of treatment by repeated semen tests it is seldom necessary to do more than study the morphology of the spermatozoa.

Chapters VII and VIII are concerned with infertility in the female. The authors first deal with theoretical considerations, stages in investigation, disturbances of endocrine mechanism, and then with therapeutic procedures, including special measures, surgical methods and an adequate consideration of artificial insemination. However, the reviewer feels that some parts of the book were written by a good clinician who was somewhat led astray by the glittering findings of the laboratory. Some of the discussions relating to the endocrine factors, for instance, are tinctured with too many speculations based on animal experimentation and not proven as applicable to clinical work. This is especially seen in the sections which deal with the usage of tests for gonadotropic and estrogenic hormones in the blood and urine, procedures which in this country have remained within the sanctuary of research groups and have been shown generally impractical for the practicing physician. The same applies to some questionable recommendations regarding endocrine therapy.

This book can be accepted as a good general review and most of the recommendations for investigation and therapy are in keeping with the practices advocated by American authorities.

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**PATHOLOGY.** Edited by W. A. D. Anderson, M.A., M.D., F.A.C.P., Professor of Pathology and Bacteriology, Marquette University School of Medicine, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The C. V. Mosby Co., St. Louis, Mo. \$15.00.

This book is different from other English language textbooks of pathology, in that it represents the work of 32 collaborators. This has resulted in an authoritative presentation of most of the important fields of pathology. The discussions on the whole are somewhat more detailed than those in other textbooks in English, and this has been accomplished without introducing detail to a confusing degree, yet the reader receives in most chapters a satisfactory idea of our incomplete understanding of the pathogenesis of many diseases.

Although a few recent contributions to pathology have not been included, this first edition is up-to-date, and several modern studies, such as the effects of radiation, are discussed in detail. The skin, the bones and the nervous system are given more comprehensive treatment than in most other textbooks.

The book is well illustrated, with ten plates in color. Most of the many photomicrographs are excellent. The lines of type are more closely placed than in most comparable textbooks, but the text is readable, and without this space-saving device, it would probably have been impossible to include all of the material in the one volume, which, as it is, has 1,426 pages.

This textbook should be useful for students, and it should be a valuable reference book for physicians.